Application No.: 10/003,211 Attorney Docket No.: BGN-A103CN

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-54. **(Canceled)**

55. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim ~~51~~ 64, wherein the heterologous protein domain is selected from the group consisting of immunoglobulins, serum albumin, lipoproteins, apolipoproteins, and transferrin.

56. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim ~~51~~ 64, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunglobulin Fc domain.

57-58. **(Canceled)**

59. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim ~~51~~ 64, wherein the soluble ligand binding domain of human lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LTβR) comprises SEQ ID. No. 1.

60. **(Currently Amended)** A method of treating systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) in a human comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising a soluble LTβR comprising the sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 fused to a human IgG1 Fc domain and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that SLE is treated.

61. **(Previously Presented)** A method of treating systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) in a human with SLE comprising administering to the human with SLE a pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide that comprises a soluble, ligand-binding domain of human lymphotoxin-β receptor (LTβR) fused to a human IgG1 Fc domain and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that SLE is treated.

62. **(Currently Amended)** The method of ~~either of~~ claim[s] ~~53 or~~ 61, wherein the ligand-binding domain of human LTβR comprises ~~an extracellular region~~ the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

63. **(Canceled)**

64. (New) A method of treating systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) in a human with SLE comprising the administrating to the human with SLE a pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide that comprises a soluble, ligand-binding domain of human lymphotoxin-β receptor (LTβR) fused to a heterologous protein domain and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that SLE is treated.